Visit to foreign countries by power sector delegations

2293. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that delegations connected with Power Industry were sent to foreign countries for the further cooperation and development in the power sector in view of the growing global competition during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the subjects of mutual interest discussed by them;

(c) the countries with whom trade agreements were entered into by them along with the details of each of the trade agreements; and

(d) the assistance expected therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Power has set up Working Groups with some countries for cooperation in the power sector. The purpose of these Working Groups is to have exchange of information on various matters related to the power sector through seminars, workshops, conferences etc. They also envisage sector related studies, exchange of experts, development of training programmes etc.

The meetings of the following Working Groups were held during the year 2000-01 and 2001-02:

a. The Scond Meeting of Indo-French Working Group on Energy was held on 1st February, 2001 at Paris (France).

b. The Seventh Meeting of Indo-Russian Working Group on Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources was held on 4th-5th January, 2001 at Moscow (Russia)

c. The Eight Meeting of Indo-Russian Working Group on Power and Non-Conventional Energy Sources was held on 5th-6th February, 2002 at New Delhi.